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7/21/01

35.C14744

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)	
SHINYA YAMAMOTO, ET AL.)	Examiner: Not Assigned
Application No.: 09/650,752)	Group Art Unit: 2852
Filed: August 29, 2000)	
For: IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS AND)	July 17, 2001
CARTRIDGE DETACHABLY)	
ATTACHABLE THERETO)	

Box Missing Parts
The Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement of June 21, 2001, Applicants elect with traverse the invention of Group I, directed to Claims 1-21.

REMARKS

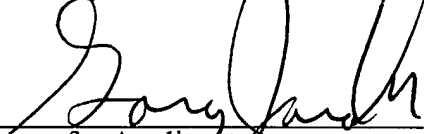
The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the Election of Species Requirement. It is respectfully submitted that it is not mandatory for the Examiner to make a Election of Species Requirement in every possible situation. It is earnestly believed that examination of all of the claims by one examiner will best ensure that there will be uniform prosecution quality. Moreover, it is submitted that all of the claims can be searched by one examiner without undue effort and a duplicative search by two examiners may possibly produce inconsistent results. In addition, it is believed that if one examiner acts on all the claims of the

present application, overall examining time will be less than if two examiners are involved.

Therefore, in the interest of prosecution quality and economy for both the Office and Applicants, withdrawal of the election of species requirement in this application is appropriate and is respectfully solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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